

HIS GREATEST BLUFF.

Engine Field's Genius Recognized by One of His Creditors.

Shawn Thompson's life of Eugene Field, which was published last week, is the most faithful portrait of the Western poet and dramatist that has yet been made. It is not by any means complete. He would be a brave biographer who would write unreservedly of the real Eugene Field, as he was known to his intimate friends and fellow craftsmen; for, as with Robert Louis Stevenson, there has been built up a bulk of tradition that precludes the possibility of anything other than a popular life.

Mr. Thompson relates many amusing anecdotes of his friends, but the best of Eugene Field will never appear in books. One in particular is worthy of preservation. It was when the poet was a reporter in Kansas City. Like many newspaper men at that time he was inclined to be belligerent, and was in a chronic state of bankruptcy.

The particular friend was a restaurant keeper named George, and for certain commodities Field had run up a bill of ostentatious proportions. One day Bransom asked Field if he could give the amount of his indebtedness. "No," said Field, "but I hope that it is not more than I can pay when my salary is raised."

My boy, continued the benign Bransom, "the bill is \$100. I despair of your ever getting your salary raised, and yet I know that your aesthetic soul recoils against debt. Now I'll tell you what I will do. I will give you \$25 cents if you will call the bill settled."

"Done!" gasped the aesthetic Field, "but, George, you must lead me a quarter."

With a promptness born of long habit the bill was passed over, and again delivered to Bransom.

"Thank," said Bransom, "the bill is now paid."

"Have you forgotten nothing, George?" remonstrated Field in English, "you have not a time-honored custom to set up the drinks when a large bill is cancelled."

"Field," said Bransom, solemnly, "your genius will bring you fame. Everybody in the house stop up."—New York Commercial Advertiser.

AN INTERNATIONAL POW-WOW.

Novel Dispute Between English-Coroner and American Naval Officer.

A novel point of international interest has arisen at Southampton.

The American warship Chicago had been lying off Netley for some days, and at 5 o'clock one morning a member of her crew was found unconscious in a boat lying alongside. He was lifted on deck and died soon afterward. The ship's doctor made a post-mortem examination, and an inquiry was held on board, with the result that, so far as the crew was concerned, the cause of death was satisfactorily explained.

An officer went ashore and arranged for a funeral, with full naval honors, in Southampton Cemetery. A handsome coffin was ordered, and the body was taken to the funeral home to be prepared for the funeral. The registrar of deaths was called upon by a difficulty arose. He felt that he could not accept the certificate of death, which was signed by the ship's doctor, not only because the registrar, it was not made out by a registered medical practitioner, but also because the ship's doctor was not a member of the local medical society.

The coroner was then seen, and he said that as soon as the body was landed it would be his duty to hold an inquest. To this the representative of the ship doctor pointed out that the deceased was not a British subject, and that it was not an English vessel, nor even a merchantman. The coroner said that he would be answered with quotations from the American naval regulations. The argument was pursued in perfect good temper, but neither side would give way, and the position was the more complicated because the ship was due to sail in a few hours.

Eventually the grand funeral was abandoned, and the body was taken to the three-mile limit the body was committed to the deep.—London Star.

A MUCH ABUSED INVENTOR.

His Lamp Wick Does a Family Out of Doors.

Numerous complaints have recently been received at the office of the Assistant Attorney General for the Postoffice Department against the inventor of an extensively advertised indestructible lamp wick. The inventor of the wick says it is the greatest thing ever put on the market, that it costs only a moderate sum and will last forever, that it gives a light, which is as bright as any kind of oil, and which is as clean as any kind of gas, and that everybody should buy as many as they need without delay.

Accompanying the circular sent to prospective purchasers is a card containing on one side the picture of a little boy studying his lessons by the light of the student lamp, and on the other side the card is a picture showing an old, gray-haired man reading a newspaper by the light of a lamp identical to that shown on the first card.

A printed explanation on the card informs the reader that although the boy grew from childhood to manhood and then to old age, his family out of doors, the light that illumined his first grade primer is the same identical one by which he now reads his evening paper.

The inventor of this marvelous business for a time, but he is very unpopular just now. The most serious complaint received at the department is from a man who says he is going to sue the inventor for the patent infringement, but he has no money to sue for, and he has no money to sue for, and he has no money to sue for.

He says he was impressed by the literature sent out for the inventor and purchased an indestructible lamp wick. He lit the wick and then couldn't put it out. It smoked like a chimney, and he finally had to take his family out of the room to prevent their being suffocated while he removed the lamp to the back yard and held it under the pump.

The smoke came to the wall and blacked the face curtains, blankets and furniture of his home, besides smelling most abominably. He wants financial satisfaction for the damages to his home and asks the department to make the inventor of the patent wick pay the doctor's bill contracted in treatment of one of his children who caught cold while sitting in the front yard.

SCOLDING A PRINCESS.

How a London Hotel Manager Almost Had a Nervous Collapse.

Telephones can be very treacherous instruments at times. One evening, when Prince of Wales, the King was at a public dinner at which he was to speak. During the meal he told an equester to send for a book, from Marlborough House. The equester gave the necessary instructions, and the hotel manager rang the royal residence up on the telephone. After he had made himself understood there was a pause of many minutes. He rang again, then again, until at last losing all patience, he literally shouted "Are you there?"

"What the—do you mean by keeping His Royal Highness waiting?" Can you hear the book or not?"

To his angry expostulations came the quiet answer, "We are very sorry to keep you waiting, we are doing our best to find the book, which will be sent on at once. Please tell my father this, because he is so particular." It was the first, and doubtless the last, time that the manager had ever met a prince through a telephone. —M. A. P.

HELP WANTED—FEMALE.

WANTED—A girl experienced in tailoring. 2202 14th St. N.W. m2-5

WANTED—Woman for hotel; also housework and seamstress; private family. 1209 New York Ave. m2-5

WANTED—A girl to cook and do general housework. Apply at 1310 17th St. N.W. m2-5

WANTED—Colored girl to do general housework; must stay at night. Apply 212 6th St. N.W. m2-5

WANTED—Handmade crochets, general housework; three women to make 300, face paid. 1025 11th St. N.W. m2-5

WANTED—White woman, general housework and cook; good wages to right person; must give references. 2014 14th St. N.W. m2-5

WANTED—Young lady for sewing room. 35 1/2 St. N.W. m2-5

WANTED—Three women, plain cook, general housework and chambermaid; \$10. 215. R. 2151 18th St. N.W. m2-5

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HELP WANTED—MALE.

WANTED—Good kitchen boy to wash dishes; also a good housekeeper. 1217 2nd Ave. N.W. m2-5

WANTED—Colored boy, experienced in peeling; also in general housework. 2202 14th St. N.W. m2-5

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